IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Paul D. Ringgenberg, Mark A. Proett,

Michael T. Pelletier, Michael L. Hinz, Gregory N. Gilbert, Harold W. Nivens

and Mehdi Azari

Filed: Herewith

Entitled: METHODS OF DOWNHOLE TESTING

SUBTERRANEAN FORMATIONS AND

ASSOCIATED APPARATUS

THEREFOR

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: R. Schoeppel

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Entry of the following preliminary amendment in the above-identified application, prior to the examination thereof, is respectfully requested. The present application is a Rule 53(b) divisional of application no. 10/270,424 for which a Notice of Allowance has been issued.